IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (currently amended) A recording apparatus for recording an information on a recordable optical record carrier (2)—by irradiation of a light beam onto said record carrier (2)—for forming marks and lands representing said information along an information recording direction, comprising:
- a light source (8) for generating a light beam,; and
- optical means (3-7)—for irradiating said light beam onto said record carrier—(2),

wherein said optical means <u>comprise</u> <u>comprises</u> means <u>(3, 14)</u> for influencing said light beam from said light source (8) to said record carrier (2) during recording of information by use of, said <u>influencing means using</u> astigmatism so as to obtain a light beam having a substantial oval spot profile having a shorter axis in the information recording direction (t) compared to the <u>a radial</u> direction (r) orthogonal theretoto the information recording direction.

2. (currently amended) A—The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said means (3, 14)—for influencing the light beam are adapted for introduction of introduces astigmatism into the light beam.

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- 3. (currently amended) A—The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said means for influencing the light beam comprises comprises a liquid crystal cell—(14).
- 4. (currently amended) A The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said liquid crystal cell (14) has a cylindrical shape.
- 5. (currently amended) A—The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said means for influencing the light beam comprises comprises a cylindrical lens—(3).
- 6. (currently amended)

 A The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said means for influencing the light beam comprise accomprises focus control means (15) for control of the controlling a focus position of the focal lines of the light beam, said light beam having an intrinsic astigmatism, such that a defocus is introduced during recording of information.
- 7. (currently amended) A—The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said focus control means (15) are adapted for addingadds an offset (16)—to a focus error signal used for keeping the optical—light beam into focus during recording of information.
- 8. (currently amended) A—The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said recording apparatus further comprising

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acomprises control means (15, 16) for control of for controlling said means for influencing the light beam by switching said means (3, 14) on or off by bringing positioning said means (3, 14) for influencing into the light path during recording.

9. (currently amended) A method of recording an information on a recordable optical record carrier (2) by irradiation of a light beam through optical means (3-7) onto said record carrier (2) for forming marks and lands representing said information along an information recording direction—(t), said method comprising the steps of:

generating a light beam;

irradiating said optical record carrier with said light beam, including, wherein the light beam from a light source (8) to said record carrier (2) during recording of information, is influenced by making use of influencing said light beam, through the use of astigmatism, so as obtain a light beam havingto have a substantially oval spot profile having a shorter axis in the information recording direction (t) compared to the a radial direction (r) orthogonal theretoto the information recording direction.

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the method as claimed in claim 9 when said computer program is run on a computer.